

## Jewish Union - J.U.D.E.A.

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Dear Congressman Istook:

On behalf of our organization, the Jewish Union - J.U.D.E.A. I wish to congratulate you and your fellow members of Congress who are sponsors and supporters of the Religious Freedom Amendment (HJ Res 78) which will once again afford the opportunity for religious expression in the public square.

Prayer plays a central role in the lives of Orthodox Jews (the fastest growing segment of the Jewish community), who pray three times a day and recite blessings prior and after eating and drinking. Religion and prayer are vital counterbalances to a culture which seems to constantly be defining deviancy down.

Many Orthodox Jews and others from the more liberal end of the Jewish spectrum realize that our founding fathers never meant to lock the divine out of school etc. We are saddened by liberal Jewish organizations that tend to be extremely "tolerant" when the issue is fostering abortion on demand or advancing the anti-family goals of the militant homosexual political agenda, but demonstrate an equal "intolerance" to those who would return prayer and respect for religion to the prominent position it enjoyed in American life through the 1950's.

To you and your Congressional colleagues we say, "Be strong, you are battling for the future of our most wonderful country. Do not become faint of heart. May the Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth, Giver of the Decalogue and the One who hears all prayers directed to Him respond to our entreaties to preserve the values that are the bedrock of our great nation."

Sincerely,



Rabbi Yehuda Levin